



**Mayfest Begins**  
Entertainment ... C-5

**River Rescue**  
City/State ... A-17



**Health Care**  
Sharing the Cost  
Business ... B-8

**WEATHER**  
Partly cloudy  
Hi: Upper 70s  
Lo: Near 50



# TULSA WORLD

★ FINAL EDITION

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35 Cents

A major study shows for the first time that screening older people yearly with a widely used test can reduce the risk of dying from colon cancer by one-third. **A-13**

## International

Bosnian Croat and Muslim commanders sign a regional U.N.-backed cease-fire to end fierce fighting between the sometime allies that left part of Mostar aflame. **A-2**

## Living

Homescaping is headed toward softer, cozier, less formal and more relaxed schemes. **C-1**

## Entertainment

Since 1986, filmmaker George Kuchar has been making annual pilgrimages to Oklahoma, to see what the weather is doing. **C-6**

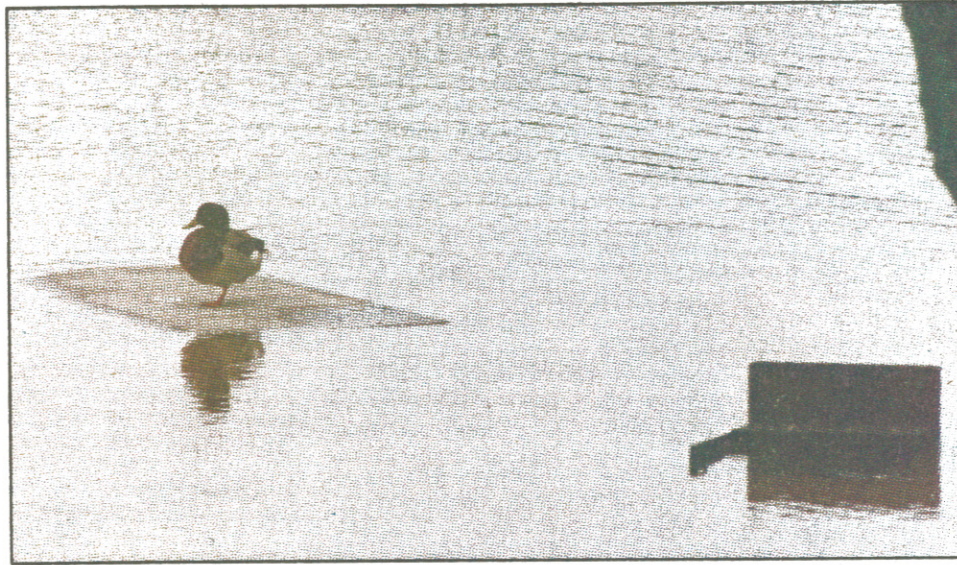
## Sports

Before deciding who it wants for its next executive director, the NCAA needs to decide what it wants the next

# Clinton OK's 4 Counties for Disaster Aid

## Corps Keeps Close Tabs on Lakes

From staff, wire reports



World staff photo by John David Heckel

A duck finds a dry perch on a partly submerged picnic table at Keystone State Park. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers increased the flow of water from Keystone Lake to 130,000 cubic feet per second Wednesday.

President Clinton declared four Oklahoma counties disaster areas Wednesday, making residents eligible for federal help recovering from weekend storms.

Clinton approved individual aid to Kingfisher, Logan, Payne and Oklahoma counties. Clinton's declaration frees the Federal Emergency Management Agency to add other counties to the disaster list as warranted.

Damage in Oklahoma has been estimated at anywhere from \$50 million to \$100 million, Gov. David Walters said.

State officials estimate more than 2,000 homes in 12 counties have been damaged by floods, straight winds, tornadoes and hail. Many rivers and lakes have yet to crest from the weekend's deadly rain, leaving the potential for more flooding.

One person was killed and three are missing after Saturday's torrential rain in Oklahoma City.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers played traffic cop with raging rivers and rising reservoirs Wednesday, trying to keep Oklahoma and Kansas lakes within their bounds without flooding downstream cities and towns.

The corps had increased or was planning to increase releases out of Keystone Lake, Lake Eufaula, Kaw Lake, Copan Lake and Hulah Lake in Oklahoma and John Redman and Council Grove lakes in Kansas on Wednesday because of the earlier inundating rain.

The corps increased the flow through Keystone late Wednesday to 130,000 cubic feet per second to keep pace with the huge flow into the lake.

The increase came after corps personnel talked with city officials from Bixby, Sand Springs and Tulsa to make sure the cities could handle additional water, said corps spokesman Ross Adkins. See Floods on A-3

# Lawmaker Opposed Bill Over Flag Plaza Funding

World Capitol Bureau

OKLAHOMA CITY — Sen. Jerry Pierce, R-Bartlesville, cast the lone dissenting vote Wednesday on a bill allocating \$350 million in bond funds because, he said, it contains \$300,000 to complete an Indian Flag Plaza at the Capitol.

Lawmakers appropriated \$99,000 to build the first portion of the flag plaza three years ago. Supporters of the project said then that the additional \$300,000 to complete it would be raised privately by various Indian tribes.

Since then, little money has been raised and no work done on the monument.

It is located just north of the Capitol. The partially completed project consists of a mound of earth and concrete, divided into four quadrants.

Plans call for facing the concrete with marble and erecting the flags of all federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma.

The project originally was

proposed by Sen. Kelley Haney, D-Seminole, a nationally known Indian artist.

Pierce said the expenditure of state funds to complete the project is "a waste of taxpayers revenue."

"This is \$300,000 that could be going to improve a state educational institution instead of building a monument," he said. "Besides, the thing has already cost taxpayers \$99,000, when funds were appropriated for it three years ago."

He called the additional expenditure "outrageous."

"It's unbelievable that we are spending this much on a monument when old people are being threatened with expulsion from nursing homes and the politicians are crying the blues for lack of funds," he said.

He said lawmakers were told three years ago, when they appropriated the first \$99,000, that no additional state funds would be required.

"Obviously, that commitment has not been kept," he said.

# High Water Closing Park Areas; . . .Paddling Flood Damage May Be \$1 Million

By John Klein  
World Staff Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Recent floods could have up to a \$1 million impact on the state park system, officials said Wednesday.

David Davies, director of state parks, met with system managers on Wednesday at Keystone State Park.

Flooding has closed one park, Bernice State Park on Grand Lake.

It has also forced the closing of some areas in seven other state parks.

Officials estimated damage to the system could reach \$400,000. State parks also will suffer about \$500,000 in lost revenue because of the flooding.

Although Bernice is the only park closed, low-lying areas in a number of the parks are now closed.

The affected areas cover the state, from Texoma in the south to Red Rock Canyon and the Great Salt Plains in the west. The hardest hit areas appear to be in northeastern Oklahoma.

"We do advise anyone wishing to visit a state park to call first," said Davies. "We still have plenty

to enjoy in the system but some areas have been closed."

Sandy Pantlik, marketing director for the tourism department, said none of the state's five lodges or cabins in nine of the parks have been affected.

"All of those lodgings are open," said Pantlik. "They have escaped damaged. In fact, Sequoyah State Park and Western Hills Lodge are open and so are many of the activities there."

"But we want people to know that some of the areas have been affected."

Red Rock Canyon, near Hinton, has suffered "significant damage" in some of the canyon areas, officials said.

In some parks, such as Keystone and Sequoyah, more than half of the campsites have been closed by high water.

"We've probably got more water at Keystone than at any other park," said Pantlik. "However, more than half of the campsites are open."

Davies said estimates of the actual damage could be as low as \$200,000 or soar above \$400,000.

"We'll just have to wait and see after the water recedes," he said.

The state operates 57 state parks and five state resorts.

## . . .Floods

Continued from A-1

"We're only talking about 6 inches of additional height on the river," he said.

"It's a real nail-biter at this point," Adkins said. "We're just hoping we don't have any more surges. The place with the least amount of room (for more water) is Bixby. If things work out, the (Keystone) water will crest below the floodgates. But if we see that it's getting close to going over the top, we're going to release more water and some people are going to get wet."

But Adkins said it is a lot safer for the corps to release water in a controlled manner than to let the water pour over the gates.

"If it goes over the top it is completely uncontrolled," he said.

"Everything's holding — at the moment. Not that certain"

barring a return of heavy rain, he said.

The corps may be off the hook as far as heavy rains are concerned — at least for the next two days.

Tulsa's National Weather Service predicted light rainfall for Wednesday night with most areas receiving less than one-tenth of an inch, then no rain for Thursday and Friday.

"Thursday we should have partly cloudy skies in northeastern Oklahoma with a high in the 70s," said meteorologist Andy Patrick. "Then we're looking for fair weather Thursday night and a clear day Friday with a high near 80 degrees and almost zero chance of rain."

Patrick said scattered thunderstorms may return on Saturday when a new storm system enters the area.

## Commerce Voters Nix School Consolidation

MIAMI, Okla. (AP) — Voters failed to approve the consolidation of the Picher-Cardin and Commerce school districts, but officials said forced annexation remains a possibility.

School officials had said consolidation would let them tap \$470,000 in assistance funds and enable them to apply for state education grants. If the districts are forced to annex, no assistance money would be available.

Voters in Picher and Cardin supported consolidation by a 2-to-1 margin Tuesday, but Commerce voters rejected the plan by about the same margin. A simple majority in both districts was required to consolidate.

"We had a chance to choose our own destiny," said Picher Mayor Howard Hudson. "Hopefully, forced consolidation is not around the corner."

Continued from A-1

ed in the survey they did not care to resort to paddling for discipline.

"There isn't anyone who loves children more than I do, and I will certainly fight for them," said board president Celeste Johnson. "But there has to be discipline, and if these children can't get it at home, then we must be able to provide it."

Johnson said that the mere threat of paddling is enough of a deterrent to most students to keep them in line.

"My grandmother used to say that you have to get your bluff in early on children," Johnson said. "This is mostly the same thing. If a student knows he or she may get a paddling for doing something, it may be enough to keep them from doing it."

"When we have nine assaults on teachers and half of them are at the elementary level, then we have to get a hold of that problem," said Howard. "I think corporal punishment is a way to do that."

Paddling will be strictly supervised. A student will be taken to a private area or to the school principal's office to receive corporal punishment. Parents who do not want their children to be paddled can inform school administrators and alternate methods of discipline will be used.

"Our teachers said overwhelmingly that they wanted the paddle returned to them," said Muskogee Education Association president Sandy Lanier. "Over 300 teachers responded to that survey and 85 to 90 percent of them asked for corporal punishment to be returned to the schools."

"We need to be clear here," said Lanier. "We are not talking about beating a child. We're talking about restoring discipline to the classroom, using the power of the paddle as a last resort."

Not everyone favors the board's decision.

Former school board president Martha Alford said Tuesday night's vote was a "step backwards" for Muskogee schools.

## . . .Economic

Continued from A-1

the bond issue will last well over two years.

"Most of these projects are going to take some time to complete," he said. "So the impact will be felt for a while."

An added benefit is the current low rate of interest, allowing the state to get more for its money. Taylor said interest rates are the lowest in 25 years.

Another provision in the bill allows higher education to refinance previous bonds at the lower interest rates. Taylor said savings could amount to as much as 5 percent in some cases.

The University of Oklahoma

Eight vocational-technical schools will receive a total of \$10.2 million.

The state School of Science and Math at Oklahoma City will receive \$4.5 million.

Gov. David Walters' telecommunications program will be allocated \$14 million.

The water resources board will be allocated \$5.7 million, and the tourism and recreation department will receive \$16.8 million for park improvements.

The mental health department will receive \$6.4 million, including \$1 million to establish a new state center in Tulsa for pregnant women with drug and alcohol

# rd Gets mp's ology

ene  
ureau

A CITY — As instructed by Gov. S, parole board member Carolyn fellow board members Wednesday to maligning their reputation. In the case, the apology was refused. Her whole litany and when she got e said, 'I apologize,' I told her I will type of apology," said board member "She slammed me in the media, want the apology to be made in the e apology will not be sufficient,"

ponse was, "I'm sorry you feel that said. rimanded Crump publicly at a press d in a letter because of her public rruption in the state's parole pro- hahoma State Bureau of Investigation the allegations, Walters said they ntiated and irresponsible. vior constitutes a disservice to the hahoma you were appointed to serve," in his letter to Crump. "I do not will not tolerate such behavior by I have appointed to hold positions of d Crump she should apologize to those A-18

# urity Level estioned er Attacks

Bureau

A CITY — An attack on a lobbyist at itol has sparked concern among state t the level of security at a time when a the Oklahoma Capitol Patrol has been for a state dental association was onday afternoon in a parking lot just apitol. rry Montgomery, a public informa- for the Department of Public Safety, man was about to leave in her car attacked her. The two struggled, and an into a pedestrian tunnel between the Capitol. The assailant fled. rry said the woman was scratched and otherwise in good condition. The Okla- Bureau of Investigations tested her car nts and other forensic evidence, Mont- ant may have been the same man who on A-18

# makers Upset Over tal Health Post Choice

rd,  
ol Bureau

OMA CITY — Law- ced anger Wednesday s that the state mental d will offer the job of lth commissioner to a al after the board had bers of the subcommittee that will recommend the mental health budget said the board should have continued to search for a mental health official of national stature rather than someone who already works in the department. "We're looking at a \$6.1 million cut that just scares the hell out of and we are looking for leader-



World staff

Bill Parsons of Storey Wrecker Service jumps over a River. Officer Lou Arce said the ca cable pulling Kathy Pearson's car from the Arkansas in less than a minute after plunging

# Mother, Son Rescued From

## Women Retrieve Two As Car Sinks

By Bill Swindell  
World Staff Writer



Kathy Pearson consoles her 5-year-old son, Brian, after narrowly escaping from their car, which careened into the Arkansas River Wednesday morning.

Two people rescued a mother and her 5-year-old son Wednesday after the woman's car careened into the flood-swollen Arkansas River, police said. "Those people were lucky," said Officer Lou Arce. "I think we averted a real tragedy here." Kathy Pearson and her son, Brian, were southbound near the 2800 block of Riverside Drive shortly after 10 a.m., Arce said. "She had one of those small spare tires on her car and it hit the curb and blew up," Arce said. The car veered left, side-swiped a vehicle and then bounced back and plunged into the river.

Lisa Spahr was walking the River Parks trail with her mother, Susie Martin. The car flashed by them and landed in the river about 10 feet from shore, Spahr said.

"The car sank within 30 seconds," she said. "She (Pearson) must have had forethought or something, because she had the car door opened once it crashed

into the river. Spahr said immediately. "She was but by the already up car," Spahr Pearson car, but the water. "That's v about five grab hold o "It was water," sh shocked by rent was. could also Spahr h Martin, wh She was sh son into sh "She wa Oh my G main thing calm both said. Pear swept dow taken one said. The tw authorities Arce sa lucky in th area of th rent was "If it ha down the been swep



# Old New

By John K  
World Staff

ENID robot, the homa, wa at the M Strip. "The S